500-May, 1928

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Memorandum for Entrance Boards, Examiners and Presiding Officers

Re Supplementary Tests in English Composition and French Composition for French-speaking Candidates who elect to take the Departmental Examination in the Five French Subjects in lieu of the Requirements of Group I.

Where under the provisions of Circular No. 46, instead of the requirements of Group I. of the High School Entrance examination, candidates take the examination in the special French subjects, members of Entrance Boards, Examiners, and Presiding Officers shall note the following:—

1. For the purpose of further testing the ability of French-speaking candidates to write freely both English and French they shall be required,—

(1) *In the case of the question paper in History, to submit their answers in English to questions 1, 2, and 6, and their answers in French to questions 3, 4, 5, and 7; and*

(2) *In the case of the question paper in Geography, to submit their answers in English to questions 1, 4, 5, and 8, and their answers in French to questions 2, 3, 6, 7, and 9.*

2. Immediately before the candidates commence writing on the papers in History and Geography, the Presiding Officers shall direct the attention of the candidates to the above requirements. The Presiding Officers shall write these requirements on the blackboard so that each candidate may see them.

3. Although candidates may answer the questions in any order, Presiding Officers shall direct them to write their answers in English on different sheets of foolscap from those used for their answers in French.

4. (1) The answer papers in History and Geography shall first be read to determine the standing of the candidates in each of these subjects. Afterwards the answers in English shall be read and valued from the standpoint of English Composition, and the answers in French from the standpoint of French Composition. From the standpoint of English Composition the maximum value to be assigned from the History answer paper shall be 20, and the maximum value to be assigned from the Geography answer paper shall be 15. From the standpoint of French Composition the maximum value to be assigned from the History answer paper shall be 20, and from the Geography answer paper, 15.

(2) Under the High School Entrance Regulations, including the provisions of Circular No. 46, the maximum mark for each of English Composition and French Composition is 100. In view of the instructions specified in 4 (1) above, in order to determine the marks to be assigned to a candidate's work in each of English Composition and French Composition the Examiner, after valuing the candidate's answers to the English Composition or French Composition paper, as the case may be, on the basis of the values assigned to the questions, shall take 2/3 of the marks assigned, and add to that result the Composition marks assigned to the answers in History and Geography. To illustrate, suppose a candidate is given a mark of 60 in his English (or French) Composition and a total mark of 22 out of 35 assigned for his Composition in History and Geography, his final mark in English (or French). Composition will be 2/3 of 60+22=62.

5. Entrance Boards may consider the advisability of holding a meeting to discuss the above directions prior to the examination in order that all concerned may be fully informed and that all necessary steps may be taken to prevent any possible misunderstanding.

Toronto, May, 1928.